

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The stock market has been firm to-day, with special activity in the miscellaneous shares, including Canton, Quicksilver and Mariposa preferred. The abundant monetary facilities at the disposal of the Stock Exchange act as an incentive to speculation for a rise, and the tendency of prices is strong in that direction.

Congress is exerting a reassuring effect upon the public mind, and confidence in the future stability of values is in process of rapid restoration. The bill, which is a mere amendment of one section of the act of March 3, 1865, virtually gives the Secretary of the Treasury no more control of the finances than he possessed under that act, with the exception of the liberty to contract the currency to the extent of ten millions during the first six months following the passage of the bill, and at the rate of not more than four millions a month afterwards, an authority of which he is likely to be unable fully to avail himself. Meanwhile the national bank system will have a correspondingly increased currency to issue for a larger amount than it will be permitted to issue under the act of March 3, 1865.

At the early session of the open board Erie (sales 1,500 shares) sold at 74 1/2, Cleveland and Pittsburg 79 1/2, Rock Island 24 1/2, Northwestern preferred 44 1/2, Fort Wayne 90 1/2 (b. 3), Canton 63, Quicksilver 46 1/2.

At the first regular board Northwestern preferred was the most buoyant of the railway shares, which were generally steady. The miscellaneous list was somewhat excited, and Canton (sales 5,000 shares) sold up to 65 1/2, Quicksilver (sales 2,000) 47 1/2, Mariposa preferred 10 1/2, Erie (sales 4,000) closed 1/2 higher than at the half-past two board yesterday, Reading (sales 6,100) 51, Hudson River 3 1/2, Michigan Southern 3 1/2, Northwestern 3 1/2, preferred 2 1/2, Rock Island 1 1/2, Fort Wayne 3 1/2, Mariposa preferred 1, Canton 3, Cumberland 3 1/2, Quicksilver 3 1/2, Missouri 3 1/2, preferred 3 1/2, Government gold-bearing securities were stronger. Coupon five-fifties of 1862 declined 3/4. Seven-thirties of the second and third series advanced 3/4.

At the one o'clock session the market was without any change of tone, and prices showed no material alteration.

At the half-past two board the market was very firm except for Canton, which closed on the call 1/2 lower than at the first regular board, and Northwestern preferred, which declined 1/4. Hudson River was 1/2 higher, Reading 3 1/2, Michigan Southern 3 1/2, Northwestern 3 1/2, preferred 2 1/2, Rock Island 1 1/2, Fort Wayne 3 1/2, Mariposa preferred 1, Canton 3, Cumberland 3 1/2, Quicksilver 3 1/2, Missouri 3 1/2, preferred 3 1/2, Government securities were stronger. Coupon five-fifties of 1862 advanced 3/4, seven-thirties of the second series 3/4.

At the open board at half-past three the market continued firm. New York Central (sales 200) sold at 92 1/2, Erie (sales 2,000) 74 1/2, Hudson River 10 1/2, Reading 10 1/2, Michigan Southern 9 1/2, Cleveland and Pittsburg 10 1/2, Rock Island 7 1/2, Northwestern 10 1/2, Fort Wayne 90 1/2. In the miscellaneous list Spruce-Hill Coal was active at 57 1/2.

At half-past five the market closed dull but firm at the following quotations:—New York Central 92 1/2, Erie 74 1/2, Hudson River 10 1/2, Reading 10 1/2, Michigan Southern 9 1/2, Cleveland and Pittsburg 10 1/2, Rock Island 7 1/2, Northwestern 10 1/2, Fort Wayne 90 1/2, Canton 51 1/2, Cumberland 4 1/2, Quicksilver 46 1/2, Mariposa preferred 20 1/2.

The money market has shown increased ease, and the supply of capital offering at call is in excess of the demand. The general rate among the brokers and private bankers is five per cent, with unimportant exceptions at six. In a few instances loans have been made at four per cent on government securities. The discount line is only moderately active, and the best grade of commercial paper is in request at seven per cent, and prime signatures at short dates have been taken at 6 1/2. The second grade is generally rated at 8 1/2 per cent. The drain of currency from the West still continues, and this keeps the local money markets at that section rather active. There is, says a Western paper, very little produce to go forward to make exchange, and comparatively little in the West to go forward. The stocks of provisions, flour and grain now on hand it is estimated will be required to supply the Southern demand which is expected to arise in consequence of the energies of the planters of the South being almost exclusively devoted to the cultivation of cotton to the neglect of everything else.

The gold market opened strong at 125 1/2, and advanced steadily to 127 1/2, following which it relaxed to 126 1/2, and subsequently recovered to 127 1/2, the closing quotation. The supply of coin for delivery was easy, and loans were made from 1 to 1 1/2 per cent per diem in favor of the lender. The tone of the speculative feeling in the room has changed with that of the recent European news, and there is an evident disposition among the bears to incur the risk of putting out fresh "shorts."

Rates of exchange on Europe experienced a further advance, owing to the supposed report of nearly a million of five-fifties by the two last steamers and the prospect of additional arrivals in view of the price of the bonds abroad being sufficiently low to allow of a profit of about five per cent upon their importation at present prices here, and Europe is the first ultimate commodity, alike with American securities closed under depression on the London Stock Exchange, in consequence of the warlike preparations of Prussia and Austria being actively in progress. Five-fifties were quoted at 70 to 70 1/2, Erie 5 1/2, Illinois Central 70 1/2, Bankers' bills on England closed dull late in the afternoon at 107 1/2, 108, at three days 108 1/2, 109, commercial 106 to 108, at sixty days 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Mining and petroleum stocks were, with a few exceptions, steady. At the first board Benefield Run closed 25c higher, Philole Farm 20c, United States 15c, Smith & Farnessee 6c. Central was 20c lower, Escobedo 15c, Denton 8c, Gunnell Gold 6c, Kipp & Bush 40c.

At the second board Benefield Run closed 35c lower, than at first board, selling at \$11 25. Consolidated Gregory Gold was 10c higher, selling at \$15 00. Central sold at \$2, Escobedo 90c, First National 15c, Ham Metcalf 15c, Philole Farm 1st, 1st, United States \$5 40, Denton 8c, 45c, Downville Gold 35c, Gunnell Gold 10c, Kipp & Bush 1st, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

The Chicago Tribune, in speaking of last Saturday's business observations:—

The money market to-day was close, but good paper was generally discounted at 10 per cent per annum. Street rates were firm at 1 1/2 per cent per month. Eastern exchange was in demand, but not active. Rates were unchanged, viz., par buying and 1 1/2 premium selling.

Muller, Wilkins & Co. sold at auction to-day 1,000 shares of Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad stock at 90 1/2.

The New York exports, exclusive of specie, for the

week ending April 10, and since the beginning of the year, are as follows:—

	1864.	1865.	1866.
For the week.....	\$3,706,148	\$2,960,719	\$4,069,510
Prev. reported.....	\$8,065,228	\$6,427,859	\$6,872,481
Since Jan. 1.....	\$42,734,973	\$66,388,584	\$60,941,941

The New York imports compare as follows:—

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Dry goods.....	\$2,824,248	\$2,043,192	\$2,618,991
Gen. merchandise.....	\$3,144,471	\$2,063,083	\$4,669,269
Total.....	\$5,968,719	\$4,106,275	\$7,288,260
Prev. reported.....	\$7,430,517	\$3,245,465	\$17,700,022

Since Jan. 1.....\$68,509,256 \$35,257,540 \$74,854,312

The Buffalo Office of yesterday says, respecting the recent failure of Rich's Bank of Exchange in that city:—

The whole liabilities of the bank do not exceed \$100,000. The private fortune of Mr. Rich would be ample to pay this amount at once, were it not for the fact that he has met with heavy losses in his business as broker in New York in consequence of the depreciation of securities upon which advances had been made. Mr. Rich has never been a speculator in stocks to any considerable extent, and his embarrassment and temporary suspension are owing to no recklessness on his own part.

The following table shows the clearings and balances at the Clearing House in Chicago during the week ending on the 7th:—

	Clearings.	Balance.
April 2.....	\$1,104,586	\$189,713
April 3.....	983,016	151,674
April 4.....	1,000,338	100,438
April 5.....	794,280	92,005
April 6.....	720,115	78,471
April 7.....	785,792	136,288
Total.....	\$5,378,795	\$812,185
Last week.....	4,631,793	784,655

The following is the amount of coal transported on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad for the week ending Saturday, April 7:—

	Week.	Yr.
Shipped North.....	7,025	88,341
Shipped South.....	22,555	229,622
Total.....	29,580	318,963
Shipped North.....	3,201	38,297
Shipped South.....	19,379	170,662
Total.....	22,580	208,959

The following is the amount of coal transported over the Lehigh Valley Railroad for the week ending April 7, 1866:—

	Week.	Yr.
Total transported.....	29,155	468,528
Corresponding week last year.....	438,551	466,575
April 2.....	65,105	102,104
April 3.....	41,154	4,239
April 4.....	1,276	555
April 5.....	2,674	791
April 6.....	1,212	18,212
April 7.....	1,212	18,212
Total for the week.....	70,570	122,775
Since January 1.....	1,300	61,704
Receipts to April 7.....	169,270	444,238
Same time in 1865.....	45,008	70,404
Increase in 1866.....	124,262	100,284

The earnings of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad for the first week in April were:—

	1865.	1866.
Total.....	\$110,522	\$110,522
Increase.....	\$8,271	\$8,271

The London Times of the 29th ult. reports:—

Owing to the preparations for the holidays, and the end of the month, the discount market at the Bank has been such as to induce a great degree of probability of a movement down to five per cent to-morrow. The confusion created in all kinds of money arrangements by the late market has been such as to induce a great degree of probability of a movement down to five per cent to-morrow. The confusion created in all kinds of money arrangements by the late market has been such as to induce a great degree of probability of a movement down to five per cent to-morrow.

The special finance panic has in some little degree subsided, but the discount market is still in a state of confusion. The confusion created in all kinds of money arrangements by the late market has been such as to induce a great degree of probability of a movement down to five per cent to-morrow. The confusion created in all kinds of money arrangements by the late market has been such as to induce a great degree of probability of a movement down to five per cent to-morrow.

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Small sales were made at the annexed rates.

Superfine and Western flour	\$3 60	80
Extra State	7 00	00
Common to medium extra Western	7 46	00
Extra round hoop Ohio	8 15	00
Western trade brands	8 45	00
Common Southern	8 60	00
Fancy and extra do	9 90	00
Common Canadian	7 20	00
Good to choice and extra	7 05	00
Rye flour (superfine)	4 75	00
Corn meal, Jersey	3 60	00
Corn meal, Braumsville	4 00	00
Corn meal, Budy	4 00	00